13
HISTORIAN'S OFFICE
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

MINUTES

OF THE

LONDON CONFERENCES,

HELD AT

ALDENHAM STREET & THEOBALD'S ROAD,

ON THE 22ND AND 23RD OF DECEMBER, 1849,

AND

THE 1ST AND 2ND OF JUNE, 1850.

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MINUTES OF CONFERENCE,

HELD 22nd and 23rd DEC. 1849.

On Saturday, 22d December, 1849, by 5 o'clock, P.M., the Meeting of the London Conference commenced at Aldenham Street, by singing and prayer.

By unanimous consent High Priest John Banks was voted to the Presidency, who, after a brief address, commenced the business of the Conference by calling for a representation of the Branches comprised in the same, the reports of which are as follows—

BRANCHES.	By whom Represented.	High Priests.	Elders.	Priests.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Removed by Letter.	Emigrated.	Cut off.	Dead.	Number of Members.	Scattered.
Theobald's Road	Elder Hyde ...	1	7	10	7	2	103	14	33	10	2	2	334	...
Camden Town ...	,, Booth	...	2	6	4	2	51	10	44	5	6	2	182	...
Whitechapel	,, Savage	...	4	6	2	2	44	10	5	12	3	3	124	...
Poplar	,, Purdy	...	2	5	...	1	27	4	11	...	1	2	97	...
Woolwich	,, Bradshaw ...	...	2	5	2	2	47	2	12	7	2	1	128	...
Brixton	,, Hart	...	2	4	4	1	33	2	25	...	1	3	69	..
Notting Hill.....	,, Harris	...	4	1	1	...	23	...	27	...	3	2	63	...
Deptford	,, Griffiths ...	...	2	2	1	1	28	9	1	...	1	3	60	...
Kent Road	,, Parson. ...	...	2	1	2	3	26	3	2	...	...	...	61	...
Newbury	,, Squires ...	...	8	4	2	2	26	4	9	9	3	1	127	...
Cold Ash	,, Ditto	...	5	6	2	1	15	...	...	6	1	1	77	...
Watford	,, Margetts...	...	3	6	1	2	16	2	7	9	3	1	106	...
Hemel Hempstead	,, Day.....	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	2	...	12	...	26	...
Luton	,, Day.....	...	3	1	...	1	...	5	...	...	10	2	22	...
Flamstead.....	,, Hawkins...	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	3	...	38	...
Edilsboro'.....	,, Johnson ...	...	3	3	3	1	8	2	1	...	3	..	80	...
Studham	,, Rogers ...	...	1	3	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	61	...
Hungerford	,, Squires ...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	2	3	2	..	12	...
Welling	,, Fisher.....	...	2	...	2	...	7	1	1	...	...	3	45	...
Riekmansworth..	,, Margetts...	...	2	1	...	1	3	...	2	...	..	...	23	...
Dover	,, T. Caffell	...	3	5	2	2	14	...	...	...	6	2	95	...
Portsmouth	,, J. Caffell...	...	2	2	2	2	32	6	2	...	3	...	102	...
Southampton ...	,, Stenhouse	...	4	6	3	2	57	7	1	...	1	...	141	...
St. Helier's, Jersey	,, Dunbar ...	...	1	5	4	2	101	4	32	..	10	4	194	...
Sheerness	,, J. Walker	...	2	4	2	2	15	...	2	1	...	1	45	...
Brighton	,, Lewis	...	3	2	1	1	14	2	1	...	...	...	32	...
Battersea	,, Jarvis	...	2	6	...	1	18	10	3	...	...	...	49	...
St. Alban's	,, Clark	...	2	4	1	1	14	7	...	...	5	1	54	...
Limehouse Fields	,, Purdy.....	...	1	1	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	21	...
Lambeth	,, Harvey ...	...	1	...	1	1	1	10	...	...	...	...	11	...
Orset	,, Fratell ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	15	...	...	1	...	14	...
Gourey	,, Dunbar ...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...
Fistour	,, De la More	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...
Havre-de-Pas ...	,, Ditto	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	..
Boxford	,, Gillies.....	...	1	1	1	...	14	1	...	...	...	..	16	...
Woodford Bridge	,, W. Walker	...	1	2	1	1	17	6	4	...	...	...	24	1
Kensall N. Town	,, Mills	...	1	1	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	15	...
Chelsea.....	,, Bagnall ...	...	2	3	1	...	7	31	...	...	...	...	38	...
Gravesend	,, Purdy.....	....	1	2	1	...	1	9	...	...	...	...	10	...
Weston.....	,, Hart	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	9	...
		1	88	113	64	41	767	202	230	62	82	35	2637	1

It was then resolved, that in consequence of Elder Booth's removal, that Elder James Freeman be appointed to the Presiding Eldership of Camden Town Branch. That Elder Henry Squires preside over St. Alban's Branch. That Elder John Clark superintend Watford Branch. That Elder Henry Bowring labour in Chatham, which is to be organized when there are seven there.

That Elder William Bowring preside over Sheerness. That Elder Thomas Day preside over Luton. That Elder James Hawkins preside over Flamstead. That Elder William Cornell preside over Hemel Hempstead. That Elder William Rogers preside over Studham, and that Elder Benjamin Johnson preside over Edilsborough.

On the motion of Elder Banks, it was resolved that Edilsborough, Luton Flamstead, Hemel Hempstead, and Studham, should henceforth each hold a separate Council. That Elder Day officiate as Book Agent to the whole of them, and that Elder Farley be appointed to travel through them. On the suggestion of Elder West it was resolved, that all sums to be remitted to him for books be so remitted on every Monday in the month.

The hour for separation having arrived, the session of this Conference was adjourned to the morning of the Sunday following, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

A blessing having been invoked upon the Assembly by Elder Hyde, this interesting and important meeting terminated.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The Saints and Officers having assembled, the Meeting was opened with singing and prayer.

Elder Banks then informed the assembly of various items of business which would occupy the morning; and accordingly the presiding Elders proposed all alterations necessary in their Branches, among which the most important were, that Elder Joseph Kimber should preside over Cold Ash; that Elder Thomas Smith labour in, and travel through Hungerford and the adjacent villages; and that Joel Beechen labour in Hastings.

On the motion of Elder Banks it was resolved—

That Westminster be organized into a Branch, and that Priest Joseph Woodcock be ordained an Elder, and preside thereat.

That Islington be organized into a Branch, and that Elder Edward Sutherland preside over it.

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That Southampton be detached from London, and be organized a separate Conference, with Elder T. B. H. Stenhouse President.

That Jersey be separated in like manner, and be so organized, with Elder W. C. Dunbar President.

That Elder T. Margetts be appointed President of the London Conference. (Resolved unanimously.)

Elder Margetts rose to thank the assembly for the kindness with which they had received his name, and the unanimity with which they had accepted him as their President. He could only say, it should ever be his care to merit their approbation, and to yield to the dictates of the Holy Spirit; but he could never expect to delight them with the teachings and the knowledge, the wisdom and the eloquence, which had so often enraptured them, and which he thought deserved their most cordial consent to the motion, that Elder Banks be presented with a commendation from this Conference, as handsomely as their means, and as eloquently as their talent would admit.

After a blessing from Elder Banks, the Meeting adjourned to the afternoon, when the presiding Elders should respectively give an account of the state and standing of their respective Branches.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

At three o'clock the Conference resumed its sitting, when, after singing and prayer, the business was recommenced, by Elder Banks calling on Elder Hyde, of Theobald's Road, to state the condition and standing of his Branch.

Elder Hyde stated, that his officers evinced the greatest willingness and energy, and the brethren and sisters deserved the highest praise, for their efforts had been most active and successful.

Elder Booth stated that his most sanguine expectations had been realized; his officers were united, and the saints had all combined to achieve one object, and that—the progress of the kingdom of God.

Elder Harris, of Notting Hill, felt happy to see the success which had attended his and his brethren's efforts, rejoiced in the work, and

hoped, with good reason, that its motions would be accelerated in Notting Hill.

Elder Stenhouse, of Southampton, would like to say something by way of farewell. His connection with Elder Banks had been most propitious, pleasing to himself, and advantageous to his Branch; and although he bade him farewell with pleasure, as he was going to the Mountains of Ephraim, yet he could not say it without that sorrow which all must feel at the loss of so great, so wise, and so good a man.

Elders Dunbar, of Jersey, and Walker, of Sheerness, both spoke of the condition of their Branches, when

Elder Banks rose, and was sorry the time would not permit more reports to be received. He exhorted the saints to continue in their most holy faith, to go on increasing in knowledge and wisdom. He thanked them most cordially for the means with which they had supplied him, and by which he would be enabled, with his family, to gather out from this land of Babylon.. To Elder Margetts he committed the Conference. He charged him to treat, and to be to them even as the Great Shepherd treated and was to his sheep, remembering that they were God's own precious and holy ones; to love them, to be to them a father, to rule them in kindness, and rebuke in love, remembering that they, though sons and daughters of God, were men and women, and that he was but a man, and of like passions with themselves; remembering that he was to be unto them a pattern of godliness, and set them such an example, as they as children and saints of the Most High ought to follow; remembering that he was to be to them a Saviour; that through him all light and intelligence was to come; that through him they were to be inducted into the kingdom of God, and by him were they to increase in the knowledge of the principles of eternal life. He concluded by moving, that Elders Booth, Stenhouse, and Dunbar, should have a letter of commendation presented to them from the Conference.

When this had been carried, Elder West read his account, as Book Agent; which, being unanimously approved of, it was resolved that Elder West be continued in the Book Agency, and that no agent should give credit.

The officers present were counted, and found to be 46 Elders, 24 Priests, 18 Teachers, and 7 Deacons.

With a blessing from Elder Banks, the Meeting separated until the evening.

SUNDAY EVENING.

Elder John Banks delivered a deep and thrilling discourse from the 18th chapter of Revelations, which cheered the hearts of the saints, and built them up in their most holy faith; after which the saints separated, much cheered, benefitted, and strengthened by the proceedings of the day.

JOHN BANKS, PRESIDENT.
FRED. PIERCY, CLERK.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE,

HELD 1st and 2nd JUNE, 1850.

THE Conference commenced on Saturday Evening, June 1st, at Aldenham Street Chapel, Somer's Town. The Meeting was called to order with singing and prayer. It was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously,

That Elder T. Margetts should take the Presidency of the Meeting.

Elder T. Margetts then made some remarks suitable to the occasion, and moved,

That Brother Bentley be Secretary to the Meeting. Seconded, and carried unanimously.

The representation of the various Branches was then proceeded with.

NAMES OF BRANCHES.	BY WHOM REPRESENTED.	Elders.	Priests.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Removed by Letter.	Emigrated.	Cut off.	Dead.	Number of Members.	PLACE OF MEETING.
Theobald's Road	Elder Hyde	8	8	7	2	66	20	65	5	3	1	350	Queen Square Rooms, Theobald's Road.
Camden Town	,, Freeman	4	5	5	3	31	10	17	15	3	4	166	16, Aldenham Street, Somer's Town.
Poplar	,, Purdy	2	5	1	1	3	5	17	—	2	—	78	67½, High Street, Poplar.
Notting Hill	,, Harris	3	1	1	—	19	1	13	—	1	—	69	2, Portobello Terrace.
Brixton	,, Hart	2	1	3	2	21	2	23	4	1	—	63	Bowling Green Street, Kennington Common.
Deptford	,, Griffiths	4	4	1	1	21	15	7	3	—	—	85	Collier Street, near Church Street
Woolwich	,, Bradshaw	7	6	6	2	12	2	4	4	7	1	123	Thomas Street.
Whitechapel	,, Savage	3	5	2	2	45	3	29	—	4	—	136	Eastern Lecture Hall.
Kent Road	,, Parson	2	4	1	2	36	2	33	—	—	—	66	Crown Wharf, Old Kent Road.
Newbury	,, Squires	9	6	5	2	24	1	9	—	2	—	141	Commercial School Room, Mary Street.
Cold Ash	,, Squires	5	8	3	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	78	Carter's House, Cold Ash Common.
Hungerford	,, Squires	1	1	1	1	12	—	—	—	—	2	22	Norman's House, Eddington.
Welling	,, Bradshaw	3	1	2	1	11	2	2	—	—	1	53	Welling.
Rickmansworth	,, Clarke	2	2	—	1	4	1	—	—	3	—	24	Harefield.
Watford	,, Clarke	2	6	1	1	15	—	15	7	1	—	87	High Street, Watford.
Dover	,, T. Caffell	4	5	3	2	10	2	4	—	2	1	103	Chapel Place, Queen Street.
Portsmouth	,, J. Caffell	2	2	4	2	32	—	5	2	9	2	115	Society Hall.
Sheerness	,, Bowring	5	3	2	2	12	4	—	—	3	—	52	1, High Street, Mile End Town.
Brighton	,, Lewis	2	3	1	1	32	9	1	—	5	—	56	Thatched House.
Battersea	,, Jarvis	3	6	1	1	10	4	2	—	—	1	60	King Street Chapel.
St. Alban's	,, Clarke	1	6	1	—	13	6	13	2	2	—	53	Saints' Meeting House, Holywell Hill.
Limehouse Fields	,, G. Clarke	1	2	1	—	3	2	3	—	—	1	26	Nimky's School Room, Rosetta Street.
Lambeth	,, Harvey	2	1	1	2	8	5	1	—	—	—	26	King's Court Chapel, Suffolk St., Gravel Lane.
Orsett	,, Hellier	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	15	Cherry Orchard.
Boxford	By Letter.	1	2	1	—	10	—	—	—	3	—	23	Latter Day Saint's Chapel, Boxford.
Woodford Bridge	Elder Walker	1	2	1	1	7	1	—	—	—	—	28	Cooper's House.
Kensal New Town	,, Harris	1	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	15	Kensal New Town.
Chelsea	,, Bagnall	4	5	2	1	42	8	2	—	3	—	83	Pond Place, Chelsea.
Gravesend	,, Hellier	2	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	13	Edwin Street.

NAMES OF BRANCHES.	BY WHOM REPRESENTED.	Elders.	Priests.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Removed by Letter.	Emigrated.	Cut off.	Dead.	Number of Members.	PLACE OF MEETING.
Merton	Elder Revis	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	Open Air.
Islington	,, Sutherland	2	2	2	1	22	43	4	1	1	—	59	Halton Place, Pickering Street.
Tabernacle Walk	,, Shorton	2	1	2	1	9	34	1	—	—	—	43	12, Tabernacle Walk, Finsbury.
Clapham	,, Manistre	1	2	1	1	5	18	—	—	—	—	23	Prescot Place, Cross Street, Manner Street.
Newington	,, Brooks	2	2	1	1	9	28	—	—	—	—	37	Charles Street, New Kent Road.
Paddington	,, Mills	1	2	1	1	7	14	—	—	—	—	26	65, Great Carlisle Street.
Westminster	,, Woodcock	1	2	—	—	1	9	—	—	—	—	10	Grey Coat Street.
Tottenham	,, Clifton	1	1	1	1	1	14	—	—	—	—	15	Fountain Cottage, West Green Lane.
Hertford	,, Hyde, Jun.	1	1	1	1	2	11	—	—	—	—	13	Folly Wharf.
Devonport	,, Phelps	1	1	1	2	12	6	—	—	—	—	18	Granby Room.
Gosport	,, J. Caffell	1	1	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	13	High Street.
Mill Wall	,, Hull	1	1	1	—	10	15	2	—	—	—	23	7, Took Street, Mill Wall.
Albion Place	,, Coffin	1	1	2	1	2	19	—	—	—	—	21	Albion Place, Bethnal Green.
		102	118	72	47	595	324	275	43	56	15	2529	

The following propositions for alterations in the various Branches were then carried unanimously :—

Poplar.—That John Wells be ordained to the Office of an Elder.
„ William Turner „ „ Elder.
„ Henry White „ „ Priest.
„ Charles Biggins „ „ Deacon.

Brixton.—That Joseph Oakley be ordained to the office of a Priest.
„ Charles Chapman „ „ Priest.
„ James Farley „ „ Priest.
„ John Spry „ „ Teacher.
„ Thomas Adams „ „ Teacher.
„ John Munroe „ „ Deacon.

That the Brixton Branch be called the Kennington Branch.

Deptford.—That Rob. Chapman be ordained to the office of Priest.
„ James Darton „ „ Teacher.
„ James Collins „ „ Deacon.

Whitechapel.—That Bromley be organized into a Branch.
That Elder Berriman preside over the Bromley Branch.
That Thomas Parsons be ordained to the office of Priest.
That Globe Fields be organized into a Branch.
That Elder Powell preside over the Globe Fields Branch.
That James Hill be ordained to the office of Elder.
„ Samuel Ames „ „ Elder.
„ Thomas Illiker „ „ Elder.
„ Charles P. Jennings „ Priest.
„ Thomas Johnson „ „ Priest.
„ Charles Hallett „ „ Priest.
„ Alexander Jackson „ Teacher.
„ John Simons „ „ Teacher.
„ Samuel Hawkes „ „ Teacher.
„ William Hawkes „ „ Teacher.
„ Samuel Cook „ „ Deacon.
„ John Middleton „ „ Deacon.
„ Elder Woodard preside over the Kent Road Branch.

NEWBURY.—That George Aubury be ordained to the office of Priest.
„ Francis Westall „ „ Teacher.
RICKMANSWORTH.—That S. Wood be appointed to the office of Teacher.
WATFORD.—That William Caffell be appointed to the office of Teacher.
„ Jesse Doggett „ „ Deacon.
DOVER.—That Elder Caffell be released from the Dover Branch.
PORTSMOUTH.—That Frank Wilson be ordained to the office of Priest.
That Elder Lewis be released from the Brighton Branch.
„ Elder T. Caffell preside over Brighton Branch.
„ Elder Jarvis be released from Battersea.
„ Elder Lewis travel in Battersea and Hammersmith.
„ Elder Jarvis preside over Dover Branch.
„ Elder Clark be released from Limehouse Branch.
„ Elder Hillier be released from Gravesend and Orsett.
„ Elder Hillier preside over Limehouse Branch.
„ Elder Parson travel in Orsett, Maidstone, and Gravesend.
WOODFORD BRIDGE.—That Samuel Weakly be ordained an Elder.
CHELSEA.—That John Gwyn be ordained to the office of Elder.
„ That David Jones „ „ Deacon.
MERTON.—That Matthew Biggs be ordained to the office of Teacher.
ISLINGTON:—That Elder Cook preside over Islington Branch.
THEOBALD'S ROAD.—That G. Bentley be ordained to the office of Elder.
„ Thomas Steyner „ „ Teacher.
CLAPHAM.—That Joseph Gray be ordained to the office of Elder.
„ Richard Bolden, sen. „ „ Priest.
„ Richard Bolden, jun. „ „ Deacon.
TOTTENHAM.—That James Bayman be ordained to the office of Elder.
„ George Liddell „ „ Priest.
DEVONPORT.—That James Harper be ordained to the office of Priest.
ISLE OF DOGS.—That Thomas Savill be ordained to the office of Priest.
„ William Cottrell „ „ Teacher.
LIMEHOUSE.—That — Savall be ordained to the office of Teacher.
„ George Margetts „ „ Elder, and
That he Travel in Windsor and Maidenhead.

The Meeting was then adjourned until the following Morning.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The Conference was Opened by Singing and Prayer. It was then resolved unanimously,

That Elder Margetts should get record books printed for supplying the branches.

That Elder Revis be released from Merton branch, and that Brother Kelsey travel in the same.

That Priest Kenney travel under the counsel of Elder Bradshaw.

That Elder Cook be Treasurer to the London Conference, for the Perpetual Emigration Fund.

Elder West having brought in his account, it was resolved,

That Elder West continue as general Book Agent to the London Conference.

That all Book Agents send to Elder Margetts on the first Monday in July an account of all books they have on hand.

That the Book Agents send to Elder West all the money they can on that day.

That this Conference uphold all authority in God's Kingdom.

That the Presidents of branches receive monthly subscriptions for Elder Margetts; and, that if any one neglect to do so, he shall state the reason at the next Conference.

That the Minutes of last Conference be printed, together with the Minutes of this Conference.

That the Book Agents get from the Presidents of branches the amount collected for Elder Margetts; and state the same on the 1st Monday of each month, and if possible send the same.

The numbers being then taken it was found that there were present,

3 of the Quorum of the 12 Apostles.
1 High Priest.
2 Presidents of Seventies.
71 Elders.
42 Priests.
25 Teachers.
20 Deacons.

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Elder Erastus Snow then addressed the meeting, and expressed his gratitude to God for the privilege of beholding so many rejoicing in the fulness of the Gospel: he looked forward to the time when they would reap as they had sown; and said—I look forward to an increase of wisdom, power, and faith. As the Holy Ghost is poured out, so will it diffuse itself among your associates; as you impart light and truth to others, so will the power of the Holy Ghost be poured out on your teachers. I say to the Saints who are babes in Christ, the principles of life are boundless; and with the pure in heart, of continual growth. As we increase in faith, our understandings will be enlarged. When the light of Heaven shines in us, the seed takes root and grows; it must be carefully nourished lest the love of the world check it, and weeds must be kept down. We must go on or back; but if the light which is in us be darkness, how great is that darkness. If we go back, we are the worst of all people.—Go on, brethren, my heart is glad to behold you; verily, you shall receive grace for grace!—as ye have received, so give. It matters not who is called; your faith will draw down blessings. It is on the weak things that God pours out the Holy Ghost. With them he will thrash the things of the earth; for He hath set his hand to build up his Kingdom on earth. Elder Snow then referred at some length to a prophecy of Brother Young's, that London should be the head quarters from which missions should start to all parts of the Continent, showed that the work was the Lord's, and that no wicked man could have the power of the Holy Ghost; and concluded by praying God to bless all present.

The Conference was then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P.M.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

In the afternoon the Meeting was addressed by Elder G. P. Dykes, who said—

I rejoice in carrying the Gospel, and that I am a partaker in the same. I rejoice in the hope of the resurrection, and although clothed with mortality, and surrounded by affliction, it is the hope of every saint. Let us be as faithful as the adversary: he is never out of *his*

place, is always doing his duty. Let us never complain of him, that he causes persecution; for thus he works out for us a far more exceeding weight of glory. By contrasting good and evil, we know the value of good, because we have felt the evil. Look at the instance of our Saviour. He descended below all things, and ascended above all things; there was nothing so low but what he knew. Thus he experienced all things, and in like manner, no being can have enjoyment unless he experience affliction in like manner. The prize is at the end of the race; and if we continue not faithful we lose our reward. Let us, as saints, guard ourselves. We have the lively oracles of God; and when not in reach of the Priesthood, we have the written law; but the Priesthood is above the written law. All laws in the kingdom of God are not always in force; for instance, the law given to Noah is no law for us; but we have the lively oracles in our midst.

Elder Dyke made many other interesting remarks, and concluded by commenting on the momentous times in which we live, and praying God to pour out his blessings on the saints.

Elder Cutler next spoke, and said: It is reported that we do not believe in the Bible; but we have here living bibles. It is eighteen years since I entered the church: I am not sorry to see it turned about; the little stone has gained in size and power. The devil is awake, and at work, late and early, and gives the saints more trouble than they need to have. I have heard them complaining of trials; but I have not seen any very grievous things. Some things only try our patience, when we think it is our faith that is tried. We have the consolation to know, that we are not employed by men; therefore we may preach what we like. If we were hired by men to preach their views, we must do it. The usual way is to select a text, and preach *from* it; and the more they preach, the further *from* it they get; and in this way 600 men will preach from one text, and all put different constructions on it. Let them preach *to* it. We all preach the same principles. I will not hang my faith on the Bible alone: it tells us about the kingdom of Heaven; but what good is it if we do not enter it. Here are witnesses who have seen, heard, and handled for themselves; the testi-

mony of living witnesses is better than that of dead ones. People say, that the Bible is all that God has revealed, or will reveal; but God cannot cease to reveal, unless he has told all he knows; in which case a man might know as much as God by learning the Bible by heart. Direct revelation from God is needed, that we may know what he wants us to do. Listen to counsel, receive all that comes from the servants of God: lay aside your consciences. It is instilled into us, that we must worship God according to conscience; but why then did he give us a law, whether agreeing to our conscience or not, and forbid us his presence if we did not obey it? May the blessings of Israel's God attend you! May you enjoy the Spirit increasingly, and be gathered to the land of Zion, and receive the blessings of God, in store for the meek and humble!

Elder Cummings spoke at considerable length, shewing that the persecution of the saints by the world arose from the same cause as the persecution of Abel, of Christ, and the prophets; not because they had robbed it of creeds or of churches, but because the prayers of the world, like Cain's plums and peaches, had not been accepted. The Saints preach not for time; they look to God for reward, and go with their lives in their hand to nations sitting in darkness for 1700 years. If the servants of God had studied their own happiness, Britain would have been left in darkness; but they were willing to sacrifice all when God called. They were independent of doctrine, because sent of God, and if the people did not like what they preached, they could leave it alone, because they were not paid for it. Elder Cumming concluded by encouraging the saints to carry out the counsels of Jehovah, saying, He will give us counsel from time to time, and if we follow Him we cannot be wrong. Men may try to steady the ark, and attempt to stop the work of Jehovah, but they will be defeated, and sink into oblivion. Be faithful to the covenant you have made, that we may be planted in the valleys, and rejoice in the principles of salvation. I pray God to bless your President, and all who labour with him.

SUNDAY EVENING.

Elder Lorenzo Snow gave a long and impressive address. He compared the state of the Church now with what it was nine years ago; spoke of the missions on which he and the other apostles and brethren were then about to depart, and thanked the saints for the means with which they had furnished him. He exhorted them to be faithful—to add all that was pure, and lovely, and holy, to their faith—to seek to make their calling and election sure, and concluded by praying God to bless them, and give them His Spirit.

Elder Franklin Richards spoke of the rise of the Church since its organization by Joseph; shewed that the time was fast approaching when those who were possessed of the good things of this life would begin to enquire concerning the faith of the saints; exhorted the saints to speak of the doctrines with frankness; to let people know that they sought their good, to be prayerful, humble and good; to be regular in prayer in their families, so as to make them their heaven, and their homes a holy place; to get the Elders to pray with them; to read Elder Pratt's pamphlets, and lend them to others, so that people might know that Mormonism included all that is good; to do every thing as if God was looking on them, that his favour might rest on them, and that the world might know that God was with them. He concluded by giving his hearty approval to the Conference business, and praying to God to bless all saints in the name of Jesus.

The Meeting then separated, all feeling much blessed by the proceedings of the day.

THOMAS MARGETTS, President.
GEORGE BENTLEY, Clerk.

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